



ENERGY POVERTY NEXUS

SUPPORTING MEMBER STATES TO COMBAT ENERGY POVERTY

Energy Poverty Nexus completed the first round of National Stakeholder Roundtables across seven project countries

September, 2026



Co-funded by
the European Union



Energy Poverty Nexus completed the first round of National Stakeholder Roundtables across seven project countries.

The Stakeholder Roundtables at the National Level is a key engagement activity of the Energy Poverty Nexus project, bringing together policymakers, researchers, civil society organisations, energy agencies and other important stakeholders to strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration in achieving the project's goal: addressing the urgent challenge of energy poverty. As part of the project, 21 national roundtables will have been organised between February 2026 and June 2028, engaging 10-20 participants in each event, and involving 210-420 stakeholders in total.

The first round of national roundtables, held in each pilot country from May to June 2026, focused on improving stakeholder's understanding of the revised Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and other relevant provisions of the Fit for 55 package. These roundtables concentrated on laying the foundation for cross-sectoral collaboration between the health, housing, social services and energy sectors, establishing a solid theoretical framework for energy poverty. Participants discussed definitions, indicators, and data sets related to energy poverty, while also contributing to the design of the Energy Poverty Action Plan that will be developed within the framework of the project.

In **Estonia** the first national roundtable was held online on 22 May 2026, gathering representatives from 10 organisations, including key ministries, energy agencies, civil society organisations and academia. Discussions focused on Estonia's pressing challenges around energy poverty and on defining the objectives and methodological framework for the establishment of the future Estonian Energy Poverty Observatory.

Held on 26 May 2026, **Poland's** first national roundtable engaged 14 stakeholders representing key ministries, leading research institutions and expert organisations working on regional development, climate policy research and data collection. Participants discussed the Observatory's role as a platform for knowledge exchange and policy evaluation, particularly in monitoring and assessing energy poverty, improving institutional coordination, integrating fragmented data sources, and supporting evidence-based policymaking.

On 27 May 2026, 29 representatives of local authorities, relevant ministries, NGOs, research institutes, and energy agencies came together to discuss the current state of energy poverty in **Croatia**. The discussion focused on data accessibility and the frameworks needed for establishing the Croatian Energy Poverty Observatory. Participants also exchanged views on policy measures for addressing energy poverty and identified priorities for continued stakeholder engagement.

In **Hungary**, the first national roundtable was also held on 27 May 2026, bringing together 15 representatives from ministries, research organisations, NGOs, academia and financing institutions. Participants explored the potential role and added value of a Hungarian Energy Poverty Observatory, discussed the national policy landscape and relevant EU legislation, and highlighted the importance of stronger cross-sectoral cooperation and knowledge exchange.

Spain's first national roundtable took place on 27 May 2026 at the Ministerial Complex in Madrid, uniting 22 representatives of ministries and public services, universities and research centres, associations and networks working on energy poverty and energy rights. The event marked the beginning of the establishment of the Spanish Energy Poverty Observatory community, with discussions focusing on the existing national policy context, as well as its institutional structure, governance, scope and added value.

In **Bulgaria**, the first national roundtable was organised on 4 June 2026 as part of the 6th edition of the Green Transition Forum in Sofia. Stakeholders representing key ministries, NGOs and the

civil society sector discuss the establishment of the Bulgarian National Energy Poverty Observatory and its role in addressing energy poverty in the country.

In **Greece**, the first national roundtable was held on June 30, 2026, organised by INZEB and DAFNI Network. The event brought together representatives from public administration, local authorities, academia, energy agencies, civil society organisations, and regulatory authorities.

As Greece already has an established Observatory, discussions focused on enhancing its key role in monitoring energy poverty, supporting evidence-based policymaking and strengthening the country's energy poverty governance framework. Participants exchanged views on the definition of energy poverty, the indicators for its effective monitoring, and discussed the development of a network of experts that will help shape national strategies and support policymakers in designing and implementing measures for energy-vulnerable citizens.

Looking ahead, the first round of National Stakeholder Roundtables across the Energy Poverty Nexus pilot countries laid the groundwork for the establishment of the National Energy Poverty Observatories as well as the creation of a strong theoretical framework around energy poverty.

The next two rounds of national roundtables will continue building on these discussions, creating valuable opportunities for dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge sharing between stakeholders from an even more wide range of sectors.



[energy-poverty-nexus](#)



[Energy Poverty Nexus](#)



[Contact us](#)